

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

No claims are currently being cancelled.

Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 28 and 29 are currently being amended.

Claims 41 and 42 are currently being added.

This amendment amends and adds claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-4, 7-10, 28, 29 and 35-42 are now pending in this application.

Filing with an RCE:

Please note that this amendment is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), whereby the RCE also requests entry of the amendment and reply filed on June 22, 2004.

Advisory Action:

In the Advisory Action that was mailed July 14, 2004, the Examiner stated that the limitation "at least one of" was still in independent claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 28 and 29. By way of this amendment and reply, that limitation has been removed from those claims.

New Claims:

New claims 41 and 42 have been added to recite additional features of the present invention that are believed to patentably distinguish over the cited art of record.

Conclusion:

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth in the now-entered reply filed on June 22, 2004, Applicant believes that the present application is now in

condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

August 18, 2004

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